

# **DELTA PROTECTION COMMISSION DRAFT FUTURE SCENARIOS / VISIONS**

**Thursday March 2, 2006**

**6:30 – 8:30 p.m.**

Attached are three different scenarios or visions for the strategic direction of the Delta Protection Commission. They are not intended to be the only options; rather they represent a range of possible directions the Commission might consider. These options are presented for the purpose of facilitating discussion in order to clarify the desired goals of the Delta Protection Commission. Please do not feel constrained by any of the suggestions.

## **MODEL ONE: Historic Role and Authority**

In this model the Commission would continue doing what it has traditionally done within a “narrow view” of the Commission’s role and authority.

### **Program Components:**

- Develop and implement a land-use and resource management plan for the primary zone
- Ensure consistency of Delta city and county general plans with the DPC Plan
- Track primary zone project proposals
- Monitor projects in secondary zone for primary zone impacts
- Serve as appeal body for third-party appeals (may change if pending legislation enacted to allow DPC to initiate appeals without waiting)
- Facilitate information briefings for commissioners
- Track legislation and proposed regulation
- Deliver an annual report to the Governor and the Legislature

### **Funding Mechanisms:**

Environmental License Plate (\$151,000 per year)

Watercraft Revolving Fund (\$178,000 per year)

### **Staffing (Lean and mean):**

3 PY’s, plus some contracted functions

## MODEL TWO: Proactive Transition

In this model the Commission would take what exists in the current Act and maximize what's allowable in the Commission's performance of its role.

### **Program Components:**

- All of the above, plus...
- Evaluate accomplishments and develop proactive priorities for implementing recommendations called for in the plan
- Develop and implement “projects” consistent with plan implementation (e.g., Mercury TMDL Collaborative, Abandoned Vessel Program)
- Maximize convening capacity for intergovernmental and interjurisdictional forums on the Delta
- Shape public policy constructively through working relationships with the legislature
- Develop a public awareness program and actively pursue opportunities for partnership and collaboration
- Facilitate grant funding for other agencies (e.g., Reclamation Districts)
- Create ongoing strategic and operational plans for the Commission's work throughout the Delta
- Develop programs that establish permanent protection for resources in the primary zone (e.g., buffers and easements)

### **Funding Mechanisms:**

- Maintain current funding in Model One, plus...
- Actively use Section 29757 of the Act which provides “The commission may apply for and accept federal grants or other federal funds and receive gifts, donations, rents, royalties, state funds derived from bond sales, the proceeds of taxes or funds from any other state revenue sources, or any other financial support from public or private sources.”
- Under Chapter 8, Section 3, receive contributions from local government land use agencies (collect additional amount) to pay for plan review and plan monitoring fees, and, impacts in the Delta, and maintenance of service agreements that would increase the current budget to a level sufficient based on inflation/projects.
- Pass-through opportunities e.g., fee for implementing programs and grants
- Contributions from State and public agencies for plan review, monitoring and mitigation related to *public projects* (paid for by bonds, taxes or assessments)
- Undertake beneficial projects paid for by non-profit corporations, large corporations, associations, governments, etc.

## **MODEL TWO: Proactive Transition (Continued)**

### **Funding Mechanisms:**

- Receive funding from member agencies through mutual agreement to fund agreed upon projects
- Receive funding from sponsors and stakeholders

### **Staffing (Modest Increases):**

- Current staff, plus...
- Additional project managers and staff, as needed on a permanent, part-time and temporary basis, to provide expanded programs and necessary administrative infrastructure

## **MODEL THREE: Increased Authority**

In this model the Commission would seek changes in and additions to the enabling legislation for broader authority (e.g., permitting, stronger enforcement authority)

### **Program Components:**

- All of the above, plus...
- Structure changes in the direction of a Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, Coastal Commission, or SFBCDC

### **Funding Mechanisms:**

- All of the above, plus...
- Direct charge for plan review and monitoring fees on applicants
- Direct charge for impact and mitigation fees on development in primary and secondary zones
- Direct charges to State and public agencies for review and mitigation related to public projects (paid for by bonds, taxes or assessments)
- Direct mitigation/user fee for drinking water taken from the Delta
- Require Annual Dues from members (tiered dues)

### **Staffing (Larger changes):**

- All of the above, plus...
- A somewhat larger staff commensurate with specific needs of an enlarged regulatory role for the Commission.